

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BELIZE 00800 180123Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----027988 180125Z /64
O 171730Z NOV 77
FM AMCONSUL BELIZE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5958
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BELIZE 800

NODIS

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, PBOR, BH, GT, UK
SUBJECT: NO OIL AT CRIQUE SARCO

1. SUMMARY: FAILURE OF CURRENT EFFORTS TO FIND OIL IN THE AREA
SOUTH OF THE MOHO RIVER MAY HAVE TEMPORARILY EASED ONE OBSTACLE
TO A SETTLEMENT OF THE BELIZE DISPUTE. END SUMMARY.

2. BELIZEAN HOPES OF FINDING PETROLEUM RESOURCES IN SOUTHERN
PART OF COUNTRY HAVE FOR PAST THREE MONTHS FOCUSED ON WELL
BEING DRILLED BY ESSO VENTURES AT CRIQUE SARCO IN PROPOSED
AREA OF CESSION TO GUATEMALA SOUTH OF THE MOHO RIVER.

3. I HAVE JUST LEARNED THAT ESSO VENTURES NOTIFIED GOB ON
NOV 13 THAT THIS WELL WAS BEING ABANDONED AND PLUGGED.

4. COMMENT. CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING DECISION AND TIMING OF
NOTIFICATION
TO GOB AS DESCRIBED TO ME BY GOB SOURCE AND CORROBORATED BY
SECRET

SECRET

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AUTHORITATIVE SOURCE IN ESSO VENTURES INDICATE PREMIER PRICE
WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN AWARE OF THIS DECISION BEFORE HIS NOV 13
CONVERSATION WITH SECRETARY. ONE REASON--ALTHOUGH PROBABLY NOT
THE MOST COMPELLING REASON--FOR PRICE'S UNWILLINGNESS TO CEDE
TERRITORY SOUTH OF MOHO RIVER HAS BEEN POSSIBLE EXISTENCE OF
PETROLEUM DEPOSITS IN AREA OF PROPOSED CESSION. WHILE ABANDONMENT
OF WELL AT CRIQUE SARCO DOES NOT

CONCLUSIVELY ELIMINATE POSSIBILITY OF PETROLEUM DEPOSITS SOUTH OF THE MOHO THIS CONSIDERATION MIGHT NOW WEIGH SOMEWHAT LESS HEAVILY IN PRICE'S THINKING.

5. ESSO VENTURES SOURCE TOLD ME IN CONFIDENCE THAT DRILLING PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE BUT ONLY AFTER FURTHER SEISMIC STUDIES OF SOUTHERN BELIZE WHICH ARE TENTATIVELY PLANNED FOR EARLY 1978. THESE WOULD TAKE TWO OR THREE MONTHS TO COMPLETE AND PLANNING FOR SUBSEQUENT DRILLING COULD NOT BEGIN UNTIL RESULTS OF THESE STUDIES ARE EVALUATED.

6. COMMENT: EXISTING EXPLORATION CONCESSIONS INCLUDE AREAS ON BOTH SIDES OF MOHO; CONSEQUENTLY, THERE WOULD APPEAR TO BE NO WAY OF PREDICTING WHETHER SITE TO BE CHOSEN FOR NEXT WELL WILL BE IN AREA OF PROPOSED CESSION UNTIL SEISMIC STUDIES ARE COMPLETED.

GAWF

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRILLING, DISPUTES, PETROLEUM RESERVES, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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SAS ID: 555969
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NO OIL AT CRIQUE SARCO
TAGS: ENRG, PBOR, BH, GT, UK
To: STATE SS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5f76b117-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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